

FACTS ABOUT EAST TENNESSEE.

NO. LXXXVII.

MARBLE FOR THE ST. LOUIS CUSTOM HOUSE.

As the papers are giving some attention to the merits of the different kinds of stone out of which it is proposed to build the new custom house at St. Louis, we have thought it no more than due our Knoxville marble to give some facts concerning it that are worthy of the consideration of the St. Louis people.

The quarry from which the marble used in our custom house is taken, seems in exhausted. We visited it when it was first opened, and we visited it yesterday only to find that all the stone taken out for our large and beautiful new building, has scarcely made an impression upon the vast bed of solid marble that now lies exposed. It is on the edge of the Tennessee river, on a high bluff about four miles East of Knoxville, and the marble in a bed about a quarter of a mile wide and running back fully a mile, seems to be in quantity enough to construct all the public buildings now projected. The Government has expended about eight thousand dollars in opening the quarry, providing steam power and machinery for sawing the marble into any sized block desired and in constructing tram-roads, derricks and conveniences for loading the stone on boats for transportation. As the marble needed for this government building will soon be all quarried, and as that remaining can be taken out and sawed at a trifling expense, with all the machinery now there, it seems to us the Government would save a great sum by shipping the stone for the St. Louis building from Knoxville. Gentlemen having control of this quarry have proposed to sell the Government the marble for the building at \$2 75 per cubic foot. If this is not satisfactory, they propose to turn this rich quarry over to the Government and let it quarry and prepare the stone under the direction of its own employees. This is certainly an honorable and liberal proposition on their part.

There are several reasons why the St. Louis building should be built of this marble. In the first place the stone is unquestionably equal if not superior for that purpose to any in the United States. We saw at the quarry, yesterday, some of this marble that for many years has been washed by the Tennessee river and subjected to the frost, and stains from dirt washings. Chip off the surface and you see at once the clear, pure marble unstained and unharmed. This shows that the marble has a compact grain and would not stain on exposure in a wall. While it is hard and close grained it is free from flint and can be worked with ordinary tools. Under the glass it shows perfect crystallization and even texture. We have seen a letter from Supervising Architect Mullett, in which he unqualifiedly pronounces it the most durable stone in this country. General Holman yesterday gave this marble a very severe fire test, heating it as hot as possible in a furnace and plunging it into cold water. It did not burst, crumble, flake or seem to be injured at all. A piece of sandstone crumbled at the same test. We therefore claim it will resist heat better than granite, better than sandstone and better than any stone we know of. In view of the late experiences at Chicago and Boston this is a quality worthy of great consideration. It weighs one hundred and eighty pounds to the cubic foot, and will last as long as any building material known.

This marble is preferable again because it can be prepared for use at a very reasonable cost. Under the present arrangement Gen. Holman saws and shapes the stone for thirty cents a superficial foot. The cost when the stone is cut entirely has been two dollars for the same measure. The freight from Knoxville to St. Louis can be contracted for at sixty cents per cubic foot.

We refer to this subject because we see the merits of the different kinds of stone are being discussed and because we feel our people are deeply interested in the result. If our quarries can supply the government wants it will be a source of great revenue to our people. We believe we have the best, and all things considered, the cheapest building marble in this country and hence wish to bring its merits properly before the people.

We see from our exchanges that the cold weather we are now having comes from much severer weather in the North and Northwest. Navigation on the lakes and canals is about closed and some of the smaller rivers are frozen. The winter from present indications will be a long and severe one in the North. It has come upon us earlier and more severe than usual, but we will doubtless yet have some milder and pleasanter days.

BY TELEGRAPH.

BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS ORGANIZED AND AT WORK.

Sumner Proposes to Reconstruct Our Battle-Flags.

Speaker Blaine Challenges Libelers to the Proof.

The Tribune Wants to Re-Elect Grant Unanimously.

Thiers and His Ministry Reconciled.

CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Both houses organized, with Colfax and Blaine in the chairs.

SENATE.

Mr. Sumner introduced a bill striking from the United States flags and army registers all mention of battles with our Southern fellow citizens. He also attempted to call up the Civil Rights bill, but was stopped by the rules.

The chaplains of both houses in their prayers mentioned the name of Mr. Greeley.

The Senate passed House resolution, regarding Mr. Greeley, and adjourned after reading the President's Message.

The debt statement shows a decrease in the debt of \$1,125,000. Coin in Treasury, \$80,500,000; Currency, \$10,125,000.

HOUSE.

The House considering Hon. N. P. Banks' proposed retirement from the Chairmanship of the Foreign Affairs Committee, the house refused to accept Mr. Banks' resignation.

Pending a resolution regarding the Credit Mobilier charges against Speaker Blaine and others, Mr. Blaine called Hon. S. S. Cox, of New York, to the chair, and the resolution as now before the house is that temporary chairman, S. S. Cox, Democrat, announce the committee.

Both houses took recess until half past one, when the message will be read.

After organization the House adopted the following: Hon. H. L. Dawes, of Massachusetts, rose and said:

"Mr. Speaker: Believing that all will concur in the propriety of a public recognition of events so impressive and so without a parallel in the history of this Government that have recently transpired, I deem it proper to offer the following resolution"—[Resolution not transmitted, but supposed to move an adjournment for Greeley's death.—EDS. CHRONICLE.]

The vote against accepting Banks' resignation was 59 to 76.

Poland, Banks, Beck, Niblack and McCrary are the committee to investigate the Credit Mobilier slander.

ALABAMA LEGISLATURE.

North Carolina Senatorial Contest—Opening the Charleston Exchange.

MONTGOMERY, Nov. 30.—This morning a detachment of the Seventh United States Cavalry marched to a point twenty yards from the Capitol grounds and bivouacked. Intense excitement followed, but learning that the troops were intended for a mere commutative pose and not to drive the Legislature from the Capitol, the excitement subsided somewhat. The Legislature passed a bill and sent it to Governor Lewis, but he refused to receive it. A joint resolution was passed raising a committee to communicate the facts of the situation by telegraph to the Government at Washington and appointing a delegate to present the written statement of the case to the President. The Legislature expresses great confidence that the President will sustain them when the facts are laid before him. In answer to the committee of the Capitol, Governor Lewis yesterday replied that two bodies claims his recognition and that the members of the other received a majority of the votes cast and that he would not recognize the Capitol Legislature because if the persons whom he said did not receive a majority vote were included the body would be without a quorum.

The court house body did nothing today, but has been in secret session a considerable portion of the day. The *Advertiser*, the central liberal Democratic organ of the State, in its issue for to-morrow morning says, that in view of the death of Mr. Greeley we recommend all the Greeley Electors to cast their votes for Grant and make his election unanimous.

MONTGOMERY, Dec. 2.—Owing to the death of Whitfield, the Conservative member from Tuscaloosa, the Capitol bodies adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow. The other body did nothing. Spencer has been nominated by the Republicans and will probably receive a majority of the votes cast by the court house body. The Conservatives meet in caucus to-night and will probably nominate a candidate.

RALEIGH, Nov. 30.—On the last ballot today Vance received 72, Merrimon 31, and Poole 58. Ten Republicans voted for Merrimon. The interest is increasing.

RALEIGH, Dec. 2.—The Conservatives made no nominations this morning. Pool, 58; divided among 70 gentlemen, 107.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 2.—The Charleston Exchange has opened for business to-day under its new constitution and in its new building. A Board of Directors chiefly composed of leading cotton merchants, with William Rowland as President, was elected. The Exchange will include in its operations transaction in cotton for its delivery.

HOME NEWS.

HORACE GREELEY'S LAST HOURS.

He Was Conscious and Without Pain.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—The accounts published of Mr. Greeley's last moments represent him to have been conscious during the day, as is usual in cases of inflammation of the brain. His physical suffering was extremely slight but increased, and a morbid action of his mind was evident from exterior manifestations. He was asked: "Do you know that you are dying?" Without tremor or emotion he answered, "Yes." Again, when asked if he recognized Mr. Reid, he looked up with immediate recognition, and lifting his hand grasped Mr. Reid's feebly, saying distinctly, "Yes." His last words were: "It is done." His face hardly changed, only settling a little into a look of perfect peace.

The New York *Tribune* says: "The melancholy death of the editor and founder of the *Tribune*, though for a few days it has been expected by his family and intimate friends, falls upon us with all the shock of a sudden calamity. He had reached, indeed, a ripe old age, but time had not laid its withering touch upon him. His splendid constitution easily bore the strain of enormous labor. His mind was as fresh and strong and suggestive as in the prime of life. His generous impulses were unchilled by disheartening experience.

Through the trying campaign which has just closed, his physical vigor, his tact, his intellectual activity surprised even those who knew him best and seemed to promise many years of usefulness. It is certain that no history of the most critical period in our national life can be found in which Horace Greeley shall not be a conspicuous figure, but the noblest career in his eyes was that which is given up to others wants, the successful life was that which is worn out in conflict with wrong and woe. The only ambition worth following was the ambition to alleviate human misery and leave the world a little better than he found it. That he had done it was the consolation which brightened his last days and assured him he had not lived in vain.

It is not for us in the first hour of our loss, to paint his character or catalogue his virtues. Although for several months we have missed the inspiration of his presence and guidance of his wise counsel, his spirit has never ceased to animate those chosen to continue his work and the close bond of sympathy between the chief and his assistants has never been broken. We leave his praises to the poor, whom he succored; to the lowly whom he lifted up; to the slave whose back he saved from the lash; to the oppressed whose wrongs he made his own.

The *Herald* in its editorial yesterday on Greeley said that he has in a mistaken aspiration for a higher field of usefulness and power and glory than journalism, fallen a sacrifice to his political ambition. He had failed to appreciate the commanding position which he had secured as a leading American journalist, and leaving it to pursue the ignis fatuus of the Presidency, he dropped the substance for the shadow of a great institution, otherwise the history and the enduring rewards of Mr. Greeley's industrious and useful career are full of encouragement to young men who, without capital, personal influence or powerful friends, have the battle of life before them.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The World Proposes Greeley Electors to Vote Blank.

ADDRESS TO DEMOCRATIC ELECTORS. NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—The following letter has been issued by the National Democratic Committee:

HEADQUARTERS NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE, NEW YORK, Dec. 2, 1872.

The National Democratic Committee do not regard it as within the scope of the authority delegated to them to advise the electors of the several States who favor the election of the candidates nominated at the Baltimore Convention, as to the course which they shall pursue in view of the death of Horace Greeley. Such an event was unprovided for by action of the Convention. Succeeding conventions will, without doubt, make provisions for a similar contingency, and as no practical result can follow the establishment of a precedent by this committee. It is deemed inadvisable that this committee should make any recommendation to the electors.

AUGUSTUS SCHILL, Chairman National Committee.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—The Liberal Club, in this city, of which Mr. Greeley was President, met this evening and passed resolutions expressive of regret at his death, which it characterized as a loss not only to the country but to the whole world.

The Herald Club and Typographical Society also passed resolutions of condolence.

The *Tribune* recommends editorially that in the electoral college the States voting for Greeley should cast them for Grant.

Beecher, in a sermon, attributed Greeley's death to a broken heart.

The World claims that Greeley's electoral votes should be cast blank.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—There are elaborate preparations for Mr. Greeley's funeral on Wednesday. Miss Kellogg and other leading singers have volunteered for the choir at Chapin's Church, which is draped. All vessels' flags are halimasted. The following gentlemen have been named as a guard of honor over the remains: John A. Dix, Wm. F. Havemeyer, Thurlow Weed, G. W. Vavien, W. Butler Duncan, A. T. Stewart, Abraham R. Lawrence, Horatio Seymour, Wm. S. Hopkin, Wm. Cullen Bryant, Henry M. Nicol, Peter Cooper, W. B. Astor, John McKoon, Sam'l J. Tilden, Shepard Knapp, John T. Hoffman, A. Oakley Hall, Moses H. Grinnell, Chas. O'Connor, Emile Sauer, Augustus Schell, Wm. M. Evarie, C. E. Dally and Wm. C. Prince.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

A BOLD, SENSIBLE, PROGRESSIVE DOCUMENT.

Prosperity at Home, Peace and Honor Abroad.

A Grand Scheme of Internal Improvements Suggested.

Postal Telegraphy and a Permanent Civil Service Reform.

An Able Paper from Secretary Boutwell

SYNOPSIS OF THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2, 8 P. M.

After a short recess the President's message was at 1.40 P. M. received and read. It commences with a recognition of the blessings which the American people have enjoyed within the past year, the only exception being the great fire in Boston. It refers to the Geneva Arbitration and its satisfactory results, which left the two Governments, the American and English, without a shadow on their friendly relations, which it is sincerely hoped may forever remain unclouded. It recommends the immediate creation of a board of commissioners to decide on the amounts to be paid to individuals for damages incurred by the Confederate privateers.

OUR PEACE TRIUMPHS.

It compliments Hon. Charles Francis Adams the American Arbitrator at Geneva, and Mr. Bancroft, Minister at Berlin, for their earnest services in the matter of the Geneva and the San Juan Arbitrations, the decision in the latter leaving the United States for the first time without any question as to disputed boundaries. In regard to the fisheries and to our relations with the British North American Provinces, the President says that he has received notice that the Imperial Parliament and the Dominion Government have passed laws to carry the provisions of the Treaty of Washington into operation, and he, therefore, recommends a legislation of Congress in the same direction. He speaks of the friendly relations of the United States with all the Governments of Europe. He refers to the Vienna International Exposition, recommends the fitting up of two national vessels to convey the goods of exhibitors to Trieste and suggests that a proposition be made to have the next great exposition in this country in 1876, at the time of the Centennial Celebration in Philadelphia.

CUBA.

He refers to the disturbed condition of Cuba, and says that no advance towards pacification in that island has been made, while the insurrection had gained no advantages and exhibited no more of the elements of power or prospective success than a year ago. Neither had Spain succeeded in repressing the insurrection. The parties to the strife were standing in the same attitude as for a long time past. The continuance of slavery in that island he regarded as among the strongest causes of the continuance of the strife, and he thinks that the abolition of slavery and the institution of other reforms there, could not fail to advance the restoration of peace and order. It was generally to be hoped that the present liberal government of Spain will voluntarily adopt that view.

He, referring to our relations with China and Japan, the President recommends provides for maintaining four American youths in each of these countries as a part of the diplomatic family of our Ministers.

OUR FINANCES.

He gives details of the revenue received in the past year and of the reduction to the amount of over one hundred millions of the public debt. He expresses a doubt whether any further reduction in taxation is practicable for the present and he recommends that no more legislation be had on that subject except to correct errors of omission or of commission in the present laws until sufficient time shall have elapsed to prove that it can be done and still leave sufficient revenue to meet the current expenses, to pay interest on the public debt and to provide for the sinking fund. He suggests, also, that the currency shall be as soon as possible brought to a par with Gold.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

He says that various enterprises will be brought to the attention of Congress for the cheapening of the transportation of produce from the West to the Atlantic seaboard, and suggests that steps should be taken to gain all available information to ensure equitable and judicious legislation. In this connection he refers favorably to the proposed route to connect the Mississippi Valley with the Atlantic at Charleston and Savannah, by way of the Ohio and Tennessee Rivers, also to the proposed extension of the Kanawha and James River Canal and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, and to the proposed canal around Niagara Falls. He says that there should be an almost continuous system of land locked navigation from Maine to the Gulf of Mexico, nature having provided a greater part of the route and the obstacles to be overcome being within the skill of engineers.

He calls attention to the weakness of the American navy and endorses the recommendations of the Secretary of the Navy in that respect. He recommends subsidies for steamship lines to Brazil and between San Francisco, New Zealand, and Australia; also an increase of the salaries of heads of bureaus. He favors the abolition of the franking privilege and recommends a modification of its existing evils. He also recommends the adoption by Congress of the best method of acquiring

ring title to all telegraphic lines now in operation, and of connecting that service with the postal service. It is not probable that the subject can receive proper consideration at this session, but he thinks the movement might be initiated so that future action may be had—fair to the government, and to the private parties concerned. He calls attention to the alarming falling off in the American carrying trade, and says that a yearly expenditure of five million dollars for the next five years to restore that trade would be a profitable investment.

THE KURLUX AND THE INDIANS.

Referring to KuKlux outrages, the President expresses his conviction that the time is not far distant when the obvious advantages of good order and peace will induce an abandonment of all such combinations, and when it will be unnecessary to carry on prosecutions or to inflict punishment in order to protect citizens from the lawless men of such combinations. He makes suggestions in regard to the Indians, that they shall all be confined to the territory South of Kansas, and that farms be secured to them in fee and severally.

He recommended that a further census be taken in 1875, but that no reapportionment of members of Congress be made under it in only one of the territories.

A BLOW AT POLYGAMY.

Utah is in a condition of affairs regarded by the President as unsatisfactory. It had seemed to be the policy of the Utah Legislature to evade all responsibility to the United States Government and even to hold opposition hostile to it. He recommends careful revision of the present laws and the enactment of laws that will secure peace, equality of all citizens before the law and the ultimate extinguishment of polygamy.

He recommends an appropriation to reimburse the city of Washington, for work done in front of the public reservations and for the embellishment of the public building and grounds. He favors action to give greater *celat* and success to the observance of the Centennial Anniversary of American Independence.

In regard to Civil Service, he says he will carry out the rules during his term of office, but suggests that there should be the direct acting of Congress to make the system binding on his successors and to secure to the public service a practical method of obtaining faithful and efficient officers and employees.

The reading of the message was completed at 2.50 P. M., having occupied one hour and twenty minutes.

SECRETARY BOUTWELL'S REPORT.

The Treasury Report says that necessity exists for a new issue of national bank notes.

The Secretary exonerates Assistant Treasurer Hillhouse from neglect of duty in the stamp division defalcation in the Assistant Treasury at New York.

The Secretary again recommends the passage of a bill to amend and consolidate the navigation and customs collection laws of the United States. As the leading pursuits of the country are now stronger than ever before, in the possession of adequate capital and a supply of intelligent laborers there may be a moderate reduction from time to time in the rate of duties as the diminishing expenses of the Government shall permit without either alarming at that or injuring labor.

He says the circulation of the banks should be fixed and limited and that power to change the volume of paper in circulation within the limits established by law should remain in the Treasury Department. A degree of flexibility in the volume of currency is essential for two reasons. First, the business of the Department cannot be transacted properly if a limit is made and the power to raise the circulation above or reduce it below that limit is denied. Secondly, there is a necessity every autumn for moving the crops without delay from the South and West to the seaboard that they may be in hand for export and consumption as wanted. The problem is to find a way of increasing the currency for moving the crop and diminishing it at once when that work is done. This is a necessary work and inasmuch as it can not be confined to the banks the power should be retained in the Treasury Department.

Believing that the country is not prepared to sustain the policy of contraction the Secretary considers the means by which the value of our currency may be improved. The basis of a policy of improvements must be found in a steady refusal to add to the paper in circulation until it is of the same value essentially as coin, this being accepted as the settled purpose of the country, there can be no permanent increase of the difference between paper and coin, and an opportunity will be given for the influence of natural causes, tending upon the whole to a better financial condition. All legislation limited in its operation to the paper issues of the Government, whether bearing interest or not, and which in its effects shall tend to diminish the market value of coin, will be found upon analysis to contain a plan for contracting the volume of paper currency, and all legislation so limited which does not contain such a plan will prove ineffectual.

The Secretary, without proceeding to the discussion of the general subject of resuming specie payments, thinks all will have been gained that is of value, when the treasury shall be prepared to pay the demand notes of the Government in coin, and the banks shall be prepared to pay their notes either in coin or in legal tender notes, and then our good fortune will clearly appear in this, that our paper currency is not exclusively of National Bank notes, nor exclusively of United States notes.

Wendell Phillips says: "Put an American baby, six months old, on his feet, and he will immediately say: 'Mr. Chairman, and call the next cradle to order.'"